

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /068 W

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R 191053Z JUL 76

FM JDEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1477

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1495

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XH, BU

SUBJECT: SOVIET RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE

REF: A. STATE 175239 B. SOFIA 1380 C. MOSCOW 11126

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT OBSERVED -- NOR DO WE EXPECT
TO -- ANY EVIDENCE THAT GOB IS USING EITHER CSCE OR
ECPC TO GAIN MORE MANEUVERABILITY VIS-A-VIS SOVIET UNION.
ON CONTRARY, BULGARIANS HAVE CONTINUED UNSWERVINGLY TO
LINK THEIR POLICY WITH THAT OF SOVIETS. INDICATIVE OF
THIS ATTITUDE WAS ZHIVKOV'S ECPC SPEECH WHICH -- AS WE
SUGGESTED IN REF BAND AS EMBASSY MOSCOW NOTED IN
REF C -- VERY PROBABLY PORTRAYED SOVIET DOCTRINAL VIEWS
MORE CLEARLY THAN DID BREZHNEV HIMSELF.

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2. THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND GOVERNMENT,

CONDITIONED BY HISTORY AS WELL AS CONTINUING POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS, PERCEIVE AN IDENTITY OF
INTERESTS WITH SOVIET STATE AND PARTY THAT IS PROBABLY
CLOSER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER COUNTRY OF EASTERN
EUROPE. AS THEY ARE STRIVING FOR "EVER CLOSER
INTEGRATION" (BUT NOT INCORPORATION) WITH SOVIET UNION
RATHER THAN INDEPENDENCE, SUCH THINGS AS CSCE AND ECPC
ARE OPPORTUNITY FOR VOLUNTARY DISPLAY OF LOYALTY
RATHER THAN LEVERAGE TO BREAK THE CLOSENESS OF THE
CONNECTION.
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